VINCENTIAN POVERTY STUDIES, MINOR

Program Description

Components of the VPS Minor

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
SWK 120	Understanding & Addressing Poverty	3
Required Courses		
Select one of the following: [1]		3
SOC 312	Social Stratification	
PHI 304	Social and Political Philosophy	
REL 357	Christian Social Responsibility	
Electives		
Select two elective courses. Partial list of courses that can be used to fulfill elective requirements for the minor: [2]		6
SWK 120	Understanding & Addressing Poverty	
SOC 312	Social Stratification	
PHI 304	Social and Political Philosophy	
POL 355	Civil Liberties	
HIS 346	Black Freedom Movement	
HIS 354	Origins of the Urban Crisis	
REL 357	Christian Social Responsibility	
SOC 205	Native American Culture	
SOC 303	Social Problems	
SOC 308	Women in Society	
SOC 325	Race and Ethnicity	
SOC 328	Social Change	
SWK 210	Diversity & Soc Justice	
Total Credits		**12**

[1] Students are required to take REL 357 Christian Social Responsibility, SOC 312 Social Stratification or PHI 304 Social and Political Philosophy as part of the three core courses for the minor. Students may take each course, using one for the core requirement and the second course as the required electives.

[2] In addition to these courses, special topic courses or other courses that will have strong poverty content may be used to fulfill the elective requirement with permission of the Director of the VPS minor.

Poverty Related Experiential Learning

This requirement may be met in several ways. For example, it could be combined with senior seminars, honors thesis courses, and various special topic courses in the student's major. An independent study option may also be used. The primary requirement is working with an agency that provides direct services to impoverished populations for a minimum of 125 hours. Readings, reflection papers, journals, and a thesis will also be required. Students may complete the required hours during the summer (see also the Shepherd Alliance Summer Internships) and complete the thesis requirement during the fall or spring semesters.

Components of the VPS Fellow Distinction

Code	Title	Credits
Required Course		
SWK 120	Understanding & Addressing Poverty	3

Two hundred and twenty five (225) Learn and Serve documented hours in agencies that have a specific focus on working with those in poverty. Summer internships, such as the Shepherd Alliance Internship, can be used to meet this requirement.

A senior thesis that focuses on poverty in combination with the student's major field of study must also be completed and approved by the VPS Minor Chairperson.